Isaiah 39 - f
James 3 & 4

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For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh, but they that are after the spirit the things of the spirit.

For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life & peace

Romans VIII. 5 & 6.

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The truth out of which this text is built, I wish to apply to collective life, - for the peace of the world - like the peace of each individual soul, comes only of a spiritual mind - and the perception of this fact has an important bearing upon certain problems social and political - with which every thinking mind busies itself. -- One is to say a trifle afraid of using the ~~term~~ expressions - the solidarity of the race - or the universal brotherhood of man - and a little slow in coming to their defense. - Because - in the first place - these expressions have been in some measure degraded by sentimentality to the mere level of cant. - They are, on many an oily tongue - high sounding phrases so entirely devoid of anything deeper than superficial significance that one instinctively shrinks from them.

Again the ideal of ~~love~~ universal love

and prove, which inspires not a few who preach Wars about the folly of strife - is an ideal of so weakly and emasculated a disposition, that we do not like to use words which may put us under suspicion of entertaining it. - There is something of the - anything-for-peace spirit in the atmosphere which every wholesome nature shuns as it would an infection - rightly judging that if not in itself a plague - that spirit at least breeds plagues. - Inanition is a counterfeit of peace - as the stagnant pool full of all uncleanness - bears the same unruffled surface which characterizes the living & life giving flow of a deep river. -- There is an outward social quiet - covering inward decay from which we will gladly escape even into the most desperate of wars, - as we would swim ashore upon a raging torrent - than move our boat in the midst of a fever breeding marsh. -

There is a millennial dream - which grasps only after external peace - and without seeking to direct the forces which have set man against man in deadly strife - asks only to have them imprisoned by building dams against them, - unmindful that warlike instincts and passions thrown back idly upon themselves, will distribute the leaven of putrefaction throughout all social life. - Better than this - as Tennyson sings

— — "better war! loud war by land & by sea —
"War with a thousand battles, and shaking a hundred thrones.

War is sufficiently awful - even hideous. - Nevertheless the time of war is a living era, - when great ideals and principles command public action and the life of a nation is full of power and dignity. - We want no peace or brotherhood which is purchased at the expense of that strength and earnestness of conviction which generates strife. - It is particularly needful

for us to remember at this present time — when there is so much of sincere & praiseworthy effort to reunite the north & south of this country in bonds of brotherhood — that the very last thing to be desired is a peace — silent about the great results of the war. — The hands whose friendly clasp is nerveless through lack of principle or purpose — are better dismissed and with the grasp of heroism — wielding opposed swords. — If the peace of nations means only universal disarmament & compromise we want nothing of it; — for we can bear more easily the burdens and horrors of war, than the load of ~~decay~~ decease which settles upon a people when there is no longer any idea in whose service they are willing to die. —

Again one is a little staggered by the confidence with which political oracles consign to the realm of chimera — all the

efforts being made through peace congresses to get national differences submitted to arbitration.— It seems so plain and fair and easy a proceeding— ~~and~~ to thus seek a peaceful solution of difficulties— and one so much more likely than war to ~~me~~ render justice to all concerned,— that one does not at first see why every statesman who has the good of mankind at heart— does not at once give his voice— to make war forever afterward impossible.—

Yet very few of them do.— The great majority ~~part~~ not only take no part in the peace movement,— but they say definitely that the movement is hopeless— and ~~tha~~ call the desire of its movers merely a dream.—

For these reasons one is led to question seriously his peaceful impulses,— and to ask whether war is the natural normal condition of mankind which it can never outgrow— or

whether ~~the~~ such phrases as the "solidarity of the race" and the "brotherhood of man" have really any great meaning.—

The necessity of distinguishing between the idea of human brotherhood - and the means that may be taken to make that idea an actual fact - will be at once seen.— and having made that distinction the subject is at once cleared of confusion.— They who talk about the foolishness of a peace congress.— do not mean that war is necessarily better than peace.— but either that the method will be altogether unfruitful of tranquility— or that the kind of peace it would procure is rather worse than better as compared with our present condition.— As no one will dispute that much energy is wasted— much evil fostered— much useful work destroyed by ~~war~~ strife.— So it will be everywhere admitted - that to

change the energy of hate into an equal energy of love.- would at once carry civilization to greater heights above the present- than the present stands above the barbarisms of the past.—

There can be no question, but the ideal of universal brotherhood is one of the loftiest ideals for which we can labor.- But this may be question of means,- and when we come to that- I think we shall all find that the politicians are right in calling much of the effort to put down war- mere foolishness.— all such effort may be classed under two heads- accordingly as it adopts the political or religious method.- i. e. as it seeks to get something answering to a resolution or ordinance or statute against war.- or strives to harmonize the clashing faculties within mans own soul- which inevitably produce outward strife.- Now any attempt by the political method to form or ratify the conditions of

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brotherhood,
universal ~~peace~~ and thus to secure the world's
final peace must forever fail of its purpose.—
political life
because ~~politics~~ is itself a kind of warfare and
never can be anything else.— ~~It must~~ Politics
must always create party strife.— and to seek by
such means to end party strife— is to perpetuate
the very thing you would destroy.— It is like
getting up an agitation to quiet agitation— only
one cause of agitation the more.— It is like
raising an army to annihilate war:— In a
word— it is adding fresh fuel to a fire for the
~~of~~ purpose of extinguishing it.— Any party
finally lead to an
contest may ~~to the question~~ appeal to arms.
if it be such as reason will not readily heal
and excite passion.— That is to say war is
so much by
produced not ~~so~~ the nature of the question at
issue as by the character (or want of character)
issue as by the character of those who take
sides in a controversy.— Suppose it were to
be decided in a political campaign whether or

war- the nation would levy war.- It is not stretch
of imagination to suppose that- that ~~may~~ might
lead to war.- If the majority were to decide against
hostilities- as in 1860 the north decided against
the south- the minority might have as much
pretext as the south did- for ~~secerding~~ seceding from to
annul the Decision.- It is true that no blame
would attach to the party of peace- but its method
would
gives it no certainty of success- and at best
it could not avoid fanning the embers of passion-
whose flame is war.- - - - Here then ~~is~~ is
a class of people who propose to hold a congress
of all nations in the interests of peace.- The
politician demands of them- what is it you desire
to do.- They answer- first of all to teach the
people that ~~it~~ their, earthly interests are after all in
common- and that their wars are not only
brutal but destructive of their own welfare.-
Secondly ~~to~~ to get them through their governments

6 to say that they will disband their armies
and hereafter regulate their conduct in accordance
with the rules ~~to~~ prescribed by a high
Court to be established.- What does the politician
say to this.- First for your teaching the people
that is perfectly proper- though it is to be feared
you must needs teach them some considerable
time- in addition to the 18 centuries during which
christianity has already striven to instil the lesson-
before they will be convinced that their worthy
interests so harmonize - or are to be harmonized
at all- for your attempt to make governments
disbelieve absolutely against war.- ~~If~~ that is matter
for discussion.- If you bring it into the
political world it will be another bone of
contention where now there are all too many.-
Supposing you could create an interest at all
likely to carry such a measure- it would provoke
such a passionate and determined opposition-

that no government on the face of the earth would dare to ratify it.— But imagine this difficulty bridged— suppose that all nations had consented to the new order of things— and your high court of international jurisprudence were in working order.— That supreme tribunal must depend of course upon moral power for the enforcement of its decrees— since to put an army at its back would mean not universal peace— but merely universal federation.— What then would happen? If the termination of a petty suit at common law so often leaves the contestants— of equally the same opinion as when they entered upon it— how can it be expected that any human wisdom would dispose of all the knotty problems growing out of complicated national interests— to the satisfaction of every ones conscience.— Some sovereign state would certainly find cause for grievance and anger— and setting the high & mighty court at

7 naught - ~~it~~ would maintain the right of its own cause - by force of arms if necessary. - Arbitration is good in all special cases when it is agreed to. - But in this world - whatever ~~[illegible]~~ institution sets out to make a business of settling disputes - will soon find its occupation gone unless it can wield sufficient physical power to enforce its decisions. - No one will appeal to it except its verdict is to be final. - Thus your dream of voluntary and universal political brotherhood vanishes in thin air. - The peace men can only respond that by the time this might count confounded - mankind will be sufficiently enlightened and virtuous to abide by its decrees, - to which it will be answered that then they will be abundantly able to settle their own disputes without going to war - having the right country. - And finally the politician will bid the advocate of human brotherhood, to go about

the work of making men enlightened and virtuous - giving politics a wide berth. - I apprehend that in all our efforts for the establishment of this great ideal - we should listen to this counsel. - -

Politics - so far as it is a science - is a science of outward affairs - and knows nothing of the motives or affections of men - save in calculating what conditions they will allow it to establish. - It cannot make men brothers - but can only remove obstructions and allow them to become brothers if they will. - It is after the flesh and must mind the things of the flesh. - The politician must always look first to the security of political interests. - and afterward to the ideal right. - Only the individual conscience can say - give these interests to the winds - I stand on the righteousness of God. - Men in our midst can said - Down with slavery, let the union take care of itself. - ~~Lincoln~~ President Lincoln said all that a Statesman could - in saying

I ~~could only~~ must save the union - and can only strike slaving in its defense. - - -
So I say - governments must take care of themselves and however a growing sense of brotherhood may modify them from time to time - they are not the instruments through which to achieve that brotherhood - It were indeed a happy thing if we could legislate out of existence that hatred which ever anon flames up from the dark depths of the human soul. - But until we can achieve this impossibility preaching against the political sin of keeping a standing army is beginning at the wrong end of the problem. -

"Last week" - says Tennyson again -
"Last week came one to the County Town
"To preach our poor little army down,
"This broad brim'd hawker of holy things
"Whose cry is stuff'd with nic cotton, and rings
"Aloud in lanes to the click of his heels,

"This incubus put down war! can we call
"whether war be a cause or a consequence!
"Put down the passions that make earth hell!
"Down with ambition, avarice, pride,
"Jealousy. Down! cut off from the mind
"The bitter springs of anger and fear;
"Down war, down at your own fireside,
"With the evil tongue and the evil ear,
"For each is at war with mankind."

All those good people who think to regenerate the world through the agency of political science are engaged in a most hopeless undertaking.- No clear headed statesmen professes to know any such mission.- Political forms may express the approach of the world toward the era of brotherhood and peace- but in no sense can they lead the movement in that direction.- The Power which really carries the race toward more perfect fellowships- is developed above all in the schools- in the church- in the home

9 and by the mother's knee.— It is a power not to be altogether if at all ~~gauged~~ gauged by the spread of what is commonly called intelligence.— Thus for the acquisition of knowledge — ~~so~~ so far from distinguishing man — has only contributed to make it a more exact and lovely science — At this very instant Europe stands armed as never before upon the brink of what threatens to be the most murderous affray the world has ever seen.— So ~~all~~ all is not done when the Papacy is disarmed — ~~Science~~ Science has released the leaders of the people from the thrall of superstition.—

Something more — even religious culture is demanded.— The artificial ties of commercial interest may serve to unite men together for certain purposes, — but strengthening the ties of affection can alone make them brothers.—

Listen not to those who tell us that the Railroad the Telegraph or the Steamships are to

conquer the worlds peace - nor believe that man is the mere puppet of circumstance which ~~that~~ that view assumes him to be, - The human soul is a self determined centre of love and hate - and whichever of these predominates - will impress all instruments into its service. - The telegraph can flash messages of wrath as well as of peace; a railroad transports cannon as easily as bales of merchandise. - It is said a nation will not go to war with its best customer, - but nations have done it time & again - and will do it still until some hand stronger than that of commercial interest - ties up the furious winds of passion. -

Let us look then to the religious method of working out human brotherhood. - What means the oneness of the race as a part of the religious ideal, - and in what words have christian teachers given it expression? - We need not seek beyond the concluding declaration of the text for answer. - To be spiritually

10 minded is life and peace – This tells the whole story of the attitude of religion toward the problem of healing discord and strife.– for it means that while men outward interests clash – and have in themselves no principle able to bring order out of confusion– their spiritual interest is one.– and ✕ is the only power which always and everywhere makes positively for peace.– In passing from physical to mental things you pass into an entirely different realm– where different laws hold sway.– There is for instance only a given amount of land in the world– whoever owns a field must hold it against the rest of ~~the world~~ his fellows.– His very ownership puts him in antagonism– since it lays claim to what others covet ✕ desire.– You have seen the pebbles driven up and down the beach with the wash of the waves– and have marked how one here and there ~~clings~~ clinging to the sand ~~and~~ is able to resist the force incessantly striving

to tear it from its bed.— That is a perfect symbol of external life.— It is a struggle to get and a struggle to maintain.— while the tide of life forever pours those who have no foothold against those who have.— Forever toppling and being dislodged, individuals are driven up and down.— while some most unfortunately are slowly ~~ruined~~ smothered out of sight by the drift to which they so tenaciously cling.— But in the realm of spirit-all this is changed.— In taking our mental welfare— we find ourselves at once in orderly and prayerful relations with every other mind ~~it touches~~— I cannot enrich my mind by spoiling others of their knowledge + goodness,— but on the contrary find myself wiser and better with the advancement of my friend.— The laws of business set every business man in contact with those who are either richer or poorer than himself.— The laws of mind make me the helper of every one less able— the grateful debtor of each nobler than myself—

11 One may be guilty of innumerable barbarities and still meet with complete worldly success, but he cannot for an instant invade the rights of another without ~~forgetting~~ jeopardizing the welfare of his soul.— Therefore there is no place for the word ~~until~~ except as spiritual purposes triumph over selfish interests and make men spiritually minded.— ~~How~~ Of what use ~~is~~ is it for a majority to decree that all men are free & Equal.— or to make laws that they shall be brothers.— I say again that does not fight the battle against passion and selfish interest which must be waged until victory in every individual soul before peace begins her lasting reign.— Every teacher who can plant deeper in human consciousness the truths of the Gospel— Every mother who rears her children for the service of high & holy aims.— Every man or woman who shows in their life what it is to

set conscience above every other consideration -
each of these does more ~~for the~~ to make the brotherhood
of the race an actual outward fact - than
all the peace conventions ever assembled together.
Because these conventions are only the expression
of a sentiment already formed, while every agent
moral
of religious culture creates new power to work
for order and love. - It will be a blessed day
for the world when it once learns to the full
that in all ~~the profession~~ pertaining to the mind, labor saving
inventions have no mission to perform, - and that
as man first earned his bread in the sweat of
his brow - as in one form or another each soul
must toil for mental nourishment, so the race
will get no nearer the ideal perfection of
relationships between man & man - except as by
slow degrees it aims for itself spirituality. -

To be spiritually minded - and that alone - for
~~one~~ and for ~~all~~ all - is life and peace: -

12 There is something marvelous in the way this ideal of brotherhood and peace has always triumphed over the attraction of wars pomp and glory.— above all the noise and tumult and horror of strife — has hovered always that voice which sang to the shepherds of Judea Peace on earth good will to men.— ~~Out~~ out of the bitter and gloomy curses which Isaiah heaped upon the heads of surrounding cities — amid the catalogue of woes which he delights to rehearse rises now & then some such ~~beautiful~~ sweet refrain as. How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that publisheth peace.— It needs not much to stir even our martial impulses — who are trained to peace.— and it is to our wonderful that in days when so much more of romance belonged to war and it was almost the only business in which Kings engaged — the higher natures of men should have so strongly cried out against it.— But I suppose that they have always

somewhat-
lived within the spiritual realm - and to that
extent have known themselves brothers, - Even so
stout a warrior as old King David - who - busied
with his kingdom breaks forth the most vindictive
prayers and threatenings against his enemies.
when he gets apart from the world - finds his soul
at peace. - - - Now the work of mankind ~~the world~~ is to
conquer so strong a spiritual peace - ~~that~~ as will
carry order and quiet into all outward affairs. -

We might as soon expect that chemistry will
be able to change the nature of the atmosphere
until it shall have no power to put the sea into
anger, - as that science will enable us to set the
business of life in such perfect order - as to avoid
all strife. - In one sense strife is something we
ought not to seek to avoid - That is to say a strong
~~unhealthy~~ healthy life - will always pose individuals
apart - and the differences thus arising can only
be reconciled by the ~~political~~ remedy - compromise -

13 which means a kind of Sooth. — But whether people are at war or at peace — depends solely upon whether they live most — outwardly or inwardly — whether they see and emphasise only their differences — or direct their attention most to the unity which always underlies diversity. — whether in the language of the text they are carnally or spiritually minded. — for that distinction is after all only the distinction between external & internal.

It is true that at first religion supposed it her duty to crush out those things which occasioned so much hatred. — The whole history of the Church of Rome is the record of an attempt to realize the dream of brotherhood — by making religion the one thing in the world — and reducing all else to so small a compass that it was not worth while fighting about. — The result was that when men had no other cause for quarrel they fought about religion itself. — And this

might teach us if no other reason - and overlooking the absurdity of striving to put down strife by strife that the warlike instinct is not to be directly met and conquered. - There is contest in every heart until its religious faith & purpose is strong enough to resist the shock of doubt - and shine clear above all contradiction and mystery. There will be contest in the world until a common religious faith and purpose - shall possess it with a stronger power - than the passion which comes from its inevitable oppositions. - It is only outwardly that men are foes. - In spirit - brothers they have been and brothers they will ever be. - - We must labor and wait - until such time as the eye of the race Turned inward - shall know itself - and find its peace. —